



The Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres

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Minutes of the meeting of the Community Council for the Royal Burgh of Forres held in the Tolbooth, Forres, on Thursday 17th Dec 2009.

Present :-

Community Cllrs J S Bremner, R T Duncan, Mrs E Hayward, R J Hellyer, S D R Kennedy, C T Lipscomb, J Mackenzie, J McDowell.

Also Present :-

H Shaw, Community Support Officer, T McLaren , Forres Gazette, & 1 member of the public.

1. Apologies:-

Apologies for absence were received from Moray Cllrs L Bell, J Hamilton, I Ogilvie, & I Young, Cllrs S Ferris, D Maclean, Mrs C M Pitstra & P Smith.

2. Minutes of Meeting of 19th Nov 2009:-

The minutes of the above meeting were proposed as accepted, seconded & ratified. The meeting requested that action points by Moray Cllr Bell & Cllr Ferris should be responded to at the January meeting. Cllr Mackenzie told the meeting that he had booked premises for a meeting in January to energise the public into supporting the further use of the Tolbooth, and had taken steps to have the curtains refitted in the courtroom, a task not completed when the courtroom was refurbished.

3. Public Session:-

- A member of the public raised concerns about the plinth for bus timetables which had been positioned in the centre of the pavement adjacent to St Leonards Church, to the detriment of pedestrians with no sight. No consultation had been carried out on the location of the plinth, it failed to achieve disabled standards in that it had no audio facility and had had an impact on a visually handicapped person who walked into it because of its location. Heather Shaw, the Community Support Officer, was asked to find who was responsible for the siting of the plinth for the next meeting. **Action Heather Shaw**

4. Secretary's Report:-

- The Secretary briefed the members on the input made to Moray Cllrs, with respect to the spending cuts, and the use of an outside agency to look at the savings that can be made in house without having to cut services to reduce the budget.
- The Secretary noted the continued stream of glossy draft publications from Moray Council & felt that this was one item which could be a candidate for cutbacks under the budget reductions. One, The Tenants Voice, drew attention to the fitting of showers in council housing stock at a weekly rent increase of £2.55 for a period of 12 years, a total cost of some £1600 per shower unit. He pointed out that the article did not specify whether this involved outside contractors or work done by the DLO.

5. Chair's Report:-

- The Chair said that he had nothing to report

6. Treasurer's Report:-

- The Treasurer reported that the account stood at £60.65.

7. A.O.C.B:-

- Cllr Hayward again asked that the Castle Inn be given a face lift. The building appearance was deteriorating & becoming more shabby as the time went on.
- Members asked if the status of Moray Cllr Hamilton could be raised on next months agenda. As a Moray Cllr, for the ward of Forres, members felt that his non attendance at our meetings since the introduction of the multi-member wards was not acceptable.

8. Date of Next Meeting:-

- Thursday 21st Jan 2010



Colin T Lipscomb
Secretary.

Minutes to be ratified by
Comm. Council 21/1/10



John S Bremner
Chair.